

Chuck Canterbury, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police: "I am writing on behalf of the members of the Fraternal Order of Police to advise you of our support for your bill, H.R. 2561, the "Protecting Officers of the Law in Civilian Establishments (POLICE) Act."

William Owensby, President of the Indiana State Fraternal Order of Police: "We would like to thank Representative Hollingsworth for this legislation that will provide common sense guidelines and allow our law enforcement professionals the ability to further protect both themselves and the public."

Sheriff Frank Loop, Floyd County, IN: "Police across America appreciate Representative Trey Hollingsworth's recognition that antiquated federal regulations barring police officers from carrying their duty weapon on federal property needs to be changed. In a time of domestic and foreign terrorism, all levels of law enforcement need to work together and police officers should never be encouraged to leave their firearm at home but rather to remain vigilant and prepared to act in the time of need."

Sheriff Scott Southerland, Brown County, IN: "Brown County is served by numerous law enforcement officers who willingly protect this community. Part of their responsibility is to respond to any situation they come in contact with, 24 hours a day, regardless if they are on duty or not. I am excited to see legislation that aims to reinforce the trust Brown County and the state of Indiana have placed in us, as law enforcement officers, in facilities that rely on our services in times of emergency."

Sheriff Jamey J. Noel, Clark County, IN : "For too long, federal facilities have demanded a lot from local and state law enforcement officers without taking into account their overall safety. Representative Hollingsworth heard these concerns and took immediate action to rectify the situation. I am proud that law enforcement has an ally such as Trey Hollingsworth watching our backs in Washington, D.C."

Sheriff Dan McClain, Scott County, IN: "This legislation is long overdue. I receive Memorandum of Understanding from the Department of Veteran Affairs every year asking me to protect their facility in Scott County. These services include but are not limited to hostage situations, active shooter situations, and crimes involving property damage, drugs, or any other major incidents that may occur. This same facility would deny me service, as a veteran, if I appeared for my scheduled appointment with my department issued firearm."

Sheriff Rodney V. Seelye, Harrison County, IN: "Bravo Congressman Hollingsworth!!! Finally, some common sense legislation from Washington, D.C. Law enforcement thanks you."

Sheriff Robert Downey, Morgan County, IN: "I am supportive of this legislation and thank Representative Hollingsworth for prioritizing the safety of law enforcement officers everywhere."

Sheriff Josh Babcock, Orange County, IN: "I support this bill. The statements are true that we, police officers, are expected to be on duty 24 hours a day and seven days a week. In smaller communities, police officers are very well known by the criminal element. So, for us to disarm ourselves not only puts our own lives in danger, but also the public. On or off duty, it is the local police departments that are the first line of defense if, heaven forbid, something terrible happens."

Sheriff Roger Newlon, Washington County, IN: "I am a firm believer that if an officer is in uniform, his weapon is a part of his uniform. I believe that it would not be good if the officer, or someone else, was in danger and the officer was not able to protect the public or himself due to not having his weapon. I support this legislation 100%."

Chief Tom Hanner, Brownstown Police Department: "I am in favor of the POLICE Act. It is unrealistic a uniformed officer must disarm under current law."

Chief Keith McDonald, Charlestown Police Department: "I feel that the POLICE Act of 2017 is needed. Police Administrations and citizens alike expect highly trained law enforcement personnel to protect and serve the public. This, at a time when the officers in uniform become a target, places the officer in an unsafe situation that could be completely avoided. I strongly feel that if the POLICE Act were to pass, it would keep both the community and the officer better protected from viable threats. I want to personally thank Representative Trey Hollingsworth for bringing this much needed change to the forefront."

Chief Mark R. Palmer, Clarksville Police Department: "In today's world, I cannot understand why anyone would want to disarm a uniformed officer. The presence of a law enforcement officer signifies the ability to react to any given threat; the idea of removing their firearm and placing the officer at a disadvantage contradicts the reason for having police officers."

Chief Matthew Kitterman, Corydon Police Department: "I believe that requiring a uniformed law enforcement officer to disarm him or herself in federal facilities has the potential to place the officer and the public in a dangerous situation. I am thankful for Representative Hollingsworth's dedication to help ensure law enforcement officers have the ability to protect the public and themselves."

Chief Thomas J. McCracken, French Lick Police Department: "Being a veteran of the Armed Services and having appointments at low-level federal buildings, I have been required to leave my weapon at home even though I'm driving a distance to my appointment. Because currently law leaves officers like me at a disadvantage should our assistance be required, I am supportive of the POLICE Act of 2017."

Chief Denny Kunkel, Georgetown Police Department: "I definitely support this new legislation that Representative Trey Hollingsworth introduced. The current law not only places trusted, uniformed officers lives in jeopardy, but it also could affect the lives and safety of civilians which could encourage someone with bad intent to take action earlier than possibly planned. The world we live in today is not as it was in the past and we need to be vigilant at every opportunity."

Colonel L. Kenny Kavanaugh, Jr., Jeffersonville Police Department: "I support Representative Trey Hollingsworth's proposed legislation, the POLICE Act. Representative Hollingsworth's commitment to law enforcement and the community is reflected in this proposed legislation to keep both law enforcement officers and the affected federal buildings within our community safe from those who wish to perpetuate violent acts against our citizens and visitors. I would like to thank Representative Hollingsworth for his unwavering support of the law enforcement community and the constituents of the 9th District for whom we protect and serve."

Chief Matthew D. Long, Martinsville Police Department: "We appreciate Representative Hollingsworth's stance on this piece of legislation. We, as police officers, stand ready to perform our duties at any time, in any place, on duty or off. Forcing law enforcement to disarm in these environments causes a gap in public safety. Thank you, Representative Hollingsworth, for your continued support of law enforcement."

Chief Steven Blair, Mitchell Police Department: "I support uniformed officers being able to carry their sidearm when they are conducting business in federal government offices and buildings with lower security concerns. I believe this is safer for both the officer and the public as they go about their business, in the unfortunate even an armed threat would arise. Additionally, this would serve as a deterrent to those who may see such a building or office as a potential target where professionals wouldn't be armed and therefore may not be able to resist and stop a potentially deadly, murderous act."

Chief Scott A. Zellers, Scottsburg Police Department: "As Chief of Police of the Scottsburg Police Department, I support this legislation. The officers of the Scottsburg Police Department, under a

Memorandum of Understanding from the Department of Veterans Affairs, protect the VA facility located in Scottsburg. Under current legislation, it would be hard for my officers to enforce this Memorandum of Understanding. There are officers within the county of Scott that have VA benefits. These same officers are required to carry weapons off-duty and would be denied services under the current legislation."

Chief William R. Whelan, Sellersburg Police Department: "I am fully supportive of this common sense legislation because it ensures that, should the need arise, local law enforcement officers have the opportunity and potential to fulfill their primary mission of protecting and serving Hoosiers. When there is an emergency, the general public will not and should not accept the excuse that an officer is not on duty. I thank Representative Hollingsworth for his commitment to the safety of police officers and Hoosiers alike."